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Stone Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1966

STONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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To the Chairman and Members of the Stone Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for 1966 which has been prepared in accordance with Circular 1/66 of the Ministry of Health.

The report is in the main a statistical presentation of the health of the district, and immediately following are some features of the report:-

Population: The population for the Rural District in mid 1966 was 20,000 which is an increase of 440 over 1965.

Births: The number of live births for the year has decreased to 353 - a decrease of 25 over 1965. This gives a live birth rate for the area of 17.65, England and Wales 17.9.

Deaths: The number of deaths from all causes amounted to 190 - an increase of 2 over 1965. This gives a death rate for the area of 9.50, England and Wales 11.1. The number of children who died in 1966 under the age of one was 3 which is a decrease of 3 over 1965.

Coronary Diseases and Angina: The total number of cases of coronary disease and angina amounted to 34. The four groups, 17, 18, 20 and 21, with a similar basic cause, form numerically the largest numbers of the list. The total deaths due to malignant disease are again evident.

Motor Accidents: The number of fatalities was 5.

National Assistance Act - Section 47. Action was taken in one case during the year.

Infectious Diseases. The number of infectious diseases notified during the year amounted to 78, the majority of these notifications consisting of measles. Apart from localised outbreaks of measles, there has been no other evidence of epidemics.

The wide extent of the Stone Rural District is especially interesting from a public health point of view. Though much of the district is rural with the emphasis on agriculture, there is a considerable amount of industry and housing.

The control of infectious disease in the district frequently relates to disease originating in cattle and transmissible to man. In particular, the occurrence of Salmonella infections and Brucellosis may be mentioned. Tuberculosis has now been largely eliminated, but the former two remain as a persistent problem with outbreaks occurring from time to time. It is felt that some of this infection reaching man does not come to the notice of the Health Department and its extent must be greater than is realised especially when appearing in a mild sub-clinical form.

At the same time the more populous districts co-existing within the area have a clearly urban character. An increasing number of people have come to reside in the area who are employed in nearby centres of industry in North Staffordshire. This gradual urbanisation raises problems in the provision of community services. Refuse collection, sewerage, lighting and drainage are services that must be provided at District Council level to a high standard. Services must be provided for what are in fact, small towns within the district, and in which the greater proportion of the population resides. The most up-to-date techniques are applicable to these communities, it being no longer sufficient to treat them as dispersed homesteads of rural districts largely self-sufficient in the preceding matters. The opportunity exists to build up these communities with first class planning and amenities away from the restrictive outlook of existing conurbations where old habits die hard.

Much emphasis has been placed in recent years on the personal health services, and attention has been distracted from the public health problems associated with the environment - which are of equal importance. The particular conditions which undermine health are less obvious and more insidious in their effect which is spread over a much longer period, but can be deduced in the final analysis as set out in tables of mortality.

The report does not include figures for morbidity which is a measure of the occurrence of disease in the living community. If it were possible to do so much extra useful material could be included. The detrimental affects of an unhealthy environment were most convincingly demonstrated in the nineteenth century and were largely related to high density living conditions with disregard to aspects of health, a tendency which is developing again where the demands for maximum economy in space and cost requires a process of miniaturisation. Not surprisingly,

/the requirements

the requirements of healthy living standards are frequently quite different. Human beings are not amenable to miniaturisation generally, requiring more rather than less living space for a full and healthy existence. When retraction of the environment is carried to certain limits, a real risk of infections, airborne or otherwise, accidents, noise, social disturbance and lack of recreational facilities and exercise is present. Regrettably there is insufficient information and firm rules regarding desirable minimum standards in this direction.

Much more could be achieved in the field of Public Health if greater knowledge of the subject was disseminated. Existing attitudes to health are curiously inconsistent and ambivalent. Contamination of food and water are totally unacceptable, but the inhalation of air, containing dust, smoke or tobacco fumes directly into the lungs (a more vital and vulnerable organ) is tolerated quite readily. Much care and attention is given to the purification and disinfection of swimming bath water, but should not also the same care be given to the indoor atmosphere of a building which may contain numbers of virus bacteria and dust particles? The incidence of common colds, influenza, sore throats etc. must certainly be related to such controllable environmental factors. Accidents, particularly accidents in the home, could be considerably reduced by more attention to safety in design and maintenance - only a few examples.

The forward approach is to include these subjects into the school curriculum at an early stage - no subject arouses greater interest than health and produces greater dividends when correctly administered except perhaps money.

I would like to express my appreciation of the assistance given by the staff of the Department and members of the Committee for their interest in public health matters during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C. R. B. BAMFORD.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1966

<u>Chairman.</u>	Councillor	R. D. Wilkinson
<u>Vice-Chairman.</u>	"	Mrs. F. S. Dainton
<u>Other Members.</u>	"	A. E. Allinson
	"	T. E. Ball
	"	A. Bartlett
	"	B. J. Davies
	"	Mrs. D. E. L. Dickson
	"	J. K. Evans
	"	S. T. Gartland
	"	Rev. G. F. Greenup
	"	G. H. Harris
	"	H. Hine
	"	C. Jackson
	"	G. L. Jacques
	"	Dr. A. S. Law
	"	W. R. G. Lawrence
	"	W. S. Lindley
	"	Mrs. F. Matthews
	"	W. Potter
	"	Mrs. L. A. Sadler
	"	L. A. Sellers
	"	A. M. Timmis
	"	Mrs. F. Wain
	"	H. T. Walton
	"	E. G. Whiteman
	"	L. J. Willdigg
	"	G. A. H. Williams
	"	F. D. Wood.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS FOR THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health

C. R. B. Bamford, M.B., B.S. (Durham), D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

C. Arthur, M.B., B.C.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor

B. K. Lovatt, M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B.

Certified Meat & Food Inspector

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

Miss E. E. Freakley, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Certified Meat & Food Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector

W. D. Davis, M.A.P.H.I., L.Bldg.S.I., H.N.C.

Pupil Public Health Inspector

C. Gaskin

Clerks

E. J. Bevan

Miss J. M. Williams

A. PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Domiciliary Nursing and General Practitioner Services

District Nurses and health visiting services are provided by the County Council under the administration of the Stafford Area Health Committee. Family doctor services are supplied in the main by five general practitioners in the Rural District, and by others resident in adjacent districts.

Hospital Services

When required, cases of infectious diseases are admitted to Bucknall Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent.

Out-patients and general hospital services are provided at the Stafford General Infirmary and the North Stafford Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent. Aged and chronic sick cases are accommodated at Trent Hospital, Stone for treatment and Part III accommodation if required.

Yarnfield Hospital which was formally the infectious diseases hospital for the district admits convalescent cases from the Stafford General Infirmary and other hospitals in the region.

In the district are also Groundsley Hospital for convalescent and maternity cases, Standon Hall Orthopaedic Hospital and Stallington Hall Hospital for the mentally sub-normal which is within the Stoke-on-Trent Hospital group.

School Clinics and Welfare Services

These are held at Eccleshall Methodist School Room, St. Michael's Hall, Stone, Walton Community Centre, Barlaston Parish Room and Tittensor Village Hall.

Clinics are held at the following times:-

Infant Welfare Centre,	Eccleshall Methodist School	: Weekly : Fri. mornings
"	"	"
"	St. Michael's Hall, Stone	: " : Thurs. afternoons
"	"	"
"	Walton Community Centre	: " : Wed. afternoons
"	"	"
"	Blythe Bridge	: " : Mon. afternoons
"	"	"
"	Barlaston Parish Room	: Monthly: 4th Tues. after- noons
"	"	"
"	Tittensor Village Hall	: Monthly: 2nd Tues. after- noons
School Clinics,	Eccleshall Methodist School	: Fortnightly : Friday mornings
"	"	"
"	St. Michael's Hall, Stone	: Fortnightly : Thursday mornings

Programmes of vaccination and immunisation of children and adults against poliomyelitis, whooping cough, tetanus and diphtheria and also smallpox are carried out in accordance with recommended Ministry of Health Schedules.

The Staffordshire County Council also provide specialised clinics where defects of speech, vision and hearing and allied conditions can be treated when these are referred following school medical examinations, and by general practitioners, health visitors and others.

Health Visiting

The District Nurses in the district are responsible for health visiting and attend all sessions and consultant clinics, following up all cases as necessary by visits to the home and co-operate with the Public Health Department where housing problems arise.

Tuberculosis Services

A tuberculosis clinic is held at Stafford General Infirmary to which patients in the Rural District travel. A tuberculosis health visitor is employed by the County Council operating part-time in the area, visiting in the home where appropriate.

Laboratory Service

Specimens of milk, water and sewage effluent samples, together with suspected unsound foods are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Stafford for examination. Chemical analyses are performed by the County Analyst.

Ambulance Services

The ambulance service is provided from Stone Ambulance Station in conjunction with the Stafford Ambulance Station.

Meals-on-Wheels

The National Assistance Act, 1948 (Amended Act, 1962) gave Local Authorities extended powers in the establishment and maintenance of Meals-on-Wheels services. A Meals-on-Wheels service is in operation in the Eccleshall area which is operated by the W.V.S., the meals being prepared in the catering department of the Drake Hall Prison. During the year a total of 3,118.

In a scattered community where an inevitable proportion of the population is elderly, difficulty may arise in applying the service due to insufficient information as to the whereabouts of the elderly and infirm. At the other extreme of life the possibilities of individual children at risk is appreciated by the health and welfare staff where continuity of care antecedes the date of birth. In old age however, this continuity may have been broken for many years - any information is only forthcoming in a less satisfactory manner, sometimes by chance and certainly at a later stage than is satisfactory. Advice and assistance which is acceptable to the parent of an infant may not be always welcome to an elderly person though both are at the extremes of life where greater care in the maintenance of health is obligatory.

The Meals-on-Wheels service provides some assistance in this direction where it can be applied. It is much more preferable to assist the elderly in their home and familiar surroundings as long as is possible and consistent with their health, welfare and contentment, and it is also less costly than institutional care.

B. GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	61,299
Population (Registrar General Return)	20,000
Number of inhabited houses and flats	6,010
Population density per house	3.3
Rateable value	£818,950
Sum represented by a penny rate	£3,098

INDUSTRIES

Pottery	Electricity Generating Station
Domestic Electrical Appliances	Agricultural Engineering
Corn Milling	Armaments Testing
Farming	

C. GENERAL HEALTH IN THE AREA INCLUDING VITAL STATISTICS

These statistics give in the form of tables, details of births and deaths and other various rates which are compared with those for England and Wales. Being based on a smaller population, the individual examples are more subject to variation than where larger populations are involved, and interpretation can be misleading unless this is taken into account.

The infant mortality rate (the number of infants who died before attaining their first birthday) for the district at 8.49 (England and Wales 18.3) is lower than usual and should be compared with the figures for 1962-1966 which are 33, 34, 20.5, 19.0, 18.3, respectively, with an average for the five years of 24.9. The total numbers are, however, rather small to form definite conclusions.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The most unusual feature of the year 1966 from a Public Health aspect was the appearance in the district of three cases of smallpox in late February and early March in a family in the Blythe Bridge district of the Rural District. This came to notice many weeks later as the earliest cases of a larger epidemic affecting the black country and Stoke-on-Trent having been traced back by a history of contact infection.

At this juncture action was limited to surveillance of contacts of cases recognised later in surrounding districts, the original patients having recovered. Mass vaccination was not required. Control of the infection was effected by isolation and surveillance of contacts of established cases, and by careful scrutiny of any other illness which could resemble smallpox.

Clinically the infection took the form of Variola Minor or Alastrim, with most of the clinical features of classical smallpox, but without the virulence and gross constitutional upset associated with this illness. Fortunately no fatalities occurred as a result of the infection, but the consequences could have been serious for the young or debilitated.

With the approach of the tourist season in May 1966, the possession of vaccination certificates became obligatory for travellers to several foreign countries, and an increased number of vaccinations were completed and certificates issued free of charge by the Department where so requested.

The source of infection of the earliest known case, a young medical photographer working in Birmingham who came to reside in the district in late February, remains unknown.

Table No. 1.

	Live Births	Still Births	Deaths of Infants under one year of age	Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age	Deaths of Infants under one week of age
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
Legitimate	180 159	4 5	2 1	2 -	2 -
Illigitimate	8 6	- -	- -	- -	- -
Total	188 165	4 5	2 1	2 -	2 -

BIRTH AND DEATH RATE

Table No 2.

Comparability Factors	Births 0.95	Deaths 1.19
	<u>Stone R.D.</u>	<u>Eng. & Wales</u>
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	17.65	17.9
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population adjusted	16.77	--
Still Births per 1,000 Live and Still Births	25.49	15.1
Death Rate per 1,000 population	9.50	11.1
Death rate per 1,000 population adjusted	11.30	--
Death Rate for infants under one year per 1,000 Live Births	8.49	18.3
Death Rate for infants under four weeks per 1,000 Live Births	5.66	18.3
Death Rate for infants under one week of age per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	5.52	26.1

Table No. 3

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female	Total	1965
1. Tuberculosis - Respiratory	-	-	-	2
2. Tuberculosis - Other	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	-	1	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	4	-	4	8
11. Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	11	2	13	4
12. Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	3	3	4
13. Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	1	1	1
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	13	9	22	8
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	1	1	-
16. Diabetes	1	-	1	1
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	16	13	29	40
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	18	16	34	37
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	-	2	1
20. Other Heart Disease	6	11	17	20
21. Other Circulatory Disease	6	1	7	8
22. Influenza	3	-	3	-
23. Pneumonia	3	4	7	8
24. Bronchitis	8	3	11	7
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	3	-	3	-
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	6	-	6	-
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	1	1	3
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-	2
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	2	1
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital Malformations	2	1	3	1
32. Other defined and Ill-defined Diseases	4	6	10	19
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	2	5	5
34. All other accidents	2	-	2	4
35. Suicide	1	1	2	3
36. Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-	-
TOTALS ----	115	75	190	188

Table No. 4

<u>TUBERCULOSIS</u>				
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
On Register at 31st December, 1965	21	5	3	5
New cases notified or transferred in during 1966	4	2	-	1
Deaths during 1966	-	-	-	-
Removed from Register on transfer out or recovery during 1966	2	-	1	-
Total remaining on Register at 31st December, 1965.	23	7	2	6

Table No. 5

Number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register for the District at the end
of the last five years

<u>Year</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
1962	20	9	3	5	37
1963	22	6	3	5	36
1964	21	5	3	5	34
1965	21	7	3	5	36
1966	23	7	2	6	38

Table No. 6

INFECTIOUS AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious and notifiable diseases sent in by Medical Practitioners during the year 1966.

DISEASE	1st. Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total 1966	Total 1965
Scarlet Fever	1	6	1	1	9	14
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	1	2	14	50	67	211
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia, Acute Primary	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	1	-	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis, Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	1	2
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-

FOOD POISONING

No. of Outbreaks	No. of Cases Notified	Actual No. of Cases	No. of Deaths	Organisms or other Agents responsible with number of out- breaks of each	Food involved with number of outbreaks of each
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	-	-

REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
ON THE
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE AREA

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supplies

The following samples of water were taken during the year for bacteriological and chemical analysis:-

<u>Bacteriological</u>					<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Well	...	...	...	...	3	4
Spring	...	...	...	...	1	3
Borehole	...	...	...	...	10	3
Main	...	...	...	...	5	1
Total					19	11

Chemical

Well	...	...	...	...	4	2
Spring	...	...	...	...	1	1
Borehole	...	...	...	...	1	16
Main	...	...	...	...	NIL	NIL
Total					6	20

The unsatisfactory bacteriological sample from a mains supply was obtained during periodic sampling from the hospitals. Following this sample the reservoir was isolated, thoroughly cleaned and chlorinated after which further sampling indicated that the water was once more satisfactory.

The chemical samples from the borehole supply were from the new borehole to serve the Council houses at Moddershall. It will be recalled that on completion the water was found to have a high nitric nitrogen content and regular sampling was carried out to ascertain whether the level remained constant.

Eight samples were taken from Trentham Swimming Pool during the season, all but one of which were satisfactory. This one was taken from the outlet end of the pool on a very hot day when the pool was crowded with people. A request was made for the chlorine to be increased in the pool on such occasions, and this was done.

SEWERAGE

Barlaston Parish

Broughton Crescent. The sewer diversion was completed early in the year.

Cocknage. Application was received from the Staffordshire County Council for a sewer extension to serve thirteen additional holdings. At the end of the year plans were in course of preparation.

Rough Close Sewage Works. Preparation of plans and specification was completed during the year, and the draft agreement between the City of Stoke-on-Trent, Wedgwoods and the Council was waiting to be finalised. As soon as this is available the scheme will be submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Chebsey Parish

Shallowford. Plans for the drainage of this part of the parish are not being proceeded with for the time being.

Eccleshall Parish

Work on the survey to connect to the Royal Ordnance Factory Works at Swynnerton proceeded, but it was also decided to prepare a scheme for extending the existing works at Eccleshall. This was in hand at the end of the year.

Fulford Parish

The Fulford, Moss Gate and Cross Gate scheme proceeded satisfactorily during the year. The sewer to serve Fulford Village and Blacklake Plantation was extended to a point adjoining Fulford Dale Road and the branch sewer serving Fulford Council houses, two semi-detached cottages and Fulford School have been connected to the outfall sewer.

Hilderstone Parish

Survey work for the Hilderstone scheme was completed and preliminary application made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government who indicated that consideration would be given to a scheme. This will be submitted shortly.

Milwich Parish

Preliminary application was made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government who again indicated that consideration would be given to a scheme.

Stone Rural Parish

Oulton. Work to the filter beds has been completed.

Oulton (Church Lane). Relaying of the sewer has been completed.

Meaford. A scheme has been commenced for the drainage of houses in the Bury Bank, Jervis Lane area, but this is now held up pending a decision on future housing.

Swynnerton Parish

Foxglove Lane Extension. This scheme has been carried out during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection. The collection of household refuse is carried out from the whole of the Rural District and for this purpose the Council employ four vehicles, (3 compressmore and 1 crushloader diesel), three of which are in regular service, and the fourth is available for standby and emergency use.

Collection from 6,010 inhabited houses is carried out at approximately 10 day intervals, and some 33,847 miles were covered by the vehicles.

Disposal. All refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping at a central tip situated at the Royal Ordnance Factory Site at Swynnerton.

Salvage Collection. Due to the high cost involved in collecting salvage, this service is not undertaken.

Night Soil Collection. The collection of night soil has continued to decrease during the year, in part due to connections to new sewer extensions and to septic tanks installed under the improvement grant scheme.

The Council still operate a free annual service for domestic septic tanks.

HOUSING

A. Repair - Housing and Public Health Acts

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1. Total number of houses repaired in consequence of informal action (all Acts) | 15 |
|--|----|

Section 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1957

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 2. Number of notices served: Informal - Nil, Formal - Nil. | |
| 3. Number of houses rendered fit after service of notices:- | |
| a) By owner | Nil |
| b) By Local Authority | Nil |

B. Beyond Repair - Housing Act, 1957

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Number of undertakings accepted | 8 |
| 2. Number of Closing Orders made | Nil |
| 3. Number of Demolition Orders made | 7 |
| 4. Number of houses demolished following Demolition Orders | 9 |

C. Clearance Area

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Number of areas represented during the year | 2 |
| 2. Action taken during the year:- | |
| (i) Houses demolished by Local Authority or owners:- | |
| a) Unfit | Nil |
| b) Others | Nil |
| (ii) Numbers displaced:- | |
| a) Individuals | Nil |
| b) Families | Nil |

D. Improvement Grants

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Standard Grants:- | |
| (i) Number of applications:- | |
| a) owner/occupiers - 2 | |
| b) tenanted houses - 2 | |
| (ii) Number of dwellings improved:- | |
| a) owner/occupiers - 2 | |
| tenanted - Nil | |
| (iii) Contribution by Council to above | £330 |
| 2. Discretionary Grants:- | |
| (i) Number of applications approved | 29 |
| (ii) Number of applications refused | Nil |
| (iii) Contribution by Council to above | £6,847 |
| (iv) Number of dwellings improved:- | |
| a) owner/occupiers - 12 | |
| b) tenanted - 12 | |

E. Rent Act, 1957

Applications for Certificate of Disrepair	Nil
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

General

Number of houses erected during the year:-

1. By Local Authority (houses and flats)	...	...	...	37
2. By private enterprise	...	...	...	89
			Total	<u>126</u>

Number of Council owned dwellings at 31st December, 1965:-

1. Erected up to 1940	...	...	...	...	...	93
2. Erected between 1947 and 1964	...	...	...	...	...	882
3. Erected during 1965	...	...	...	...	...	10
4. Erected during 1966	...	...	...	...	...	37
5. Purchased from private owners	...	...	...	...	...	7
				Total		<u>1,029</u>

Welfare Unit

Work was completed during the early part of 1966 on the Eccleshall Welfare Unit. This comprises of 12 flatlets and 14 flats with general welfare facilities for the elderly, a warden's flat and 4 flats for general housing allocation. The unit appears to be fulfilling a need for this type of accommodation very successfully.

Housing Survey

The detailed survey of all the lower rated houses in the parish of Chebsey was completed in September, showing three houses for immediate demolition and 12 for future demolition.

It is proposed to start on the parish of Eccleshall as soon as possible.

INSPECTION A AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat Inspection

The following table gives details of meat inspection at the three private slaughterhouses during the year 1966.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	396	Nil	58	3,186	354
Number Inspected	396	Nil	58	3,186	354
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	33	-	-	189	10
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	8.3%	-	-	5.9%	2.8%
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>					
Whole Carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.82%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Carcase submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-

Once again there has been a slight decrease in the amount of meat killed. Regular meat inspection is carried out and all meat killed in the slaughterhouses is inspected as soon after slaughter as possible. Apart from public holidays, most of this work is carried out during normal office hours.

Weight of meat condemned:-

1)	Tuberculosis	20 lbs.
2)	Other diseases or conditions	652 lbs.
		<u>672 lbs.</u>

The tuberculosis referred to above was found in three pigs heads. No tuberculosis was found in cattle.

One beast was affected with cysticercus bovis. The site organ was condemned and the carcase and remaining offal were consigned to cold store.

The condemned meat at the slaughterhouses and butchers' premises was disposed of by the butchers to manufacturers of animal by-products in accordance with the Meat (Staining and Sterilising) Regulations, 1960.

Three slaughterhouses and one knackers yard were licensed during the year. Eleven men were licensed to stun and slaughter animals under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958. A detailed inspection of the slaughterhouses is carried out from time to time in order to ensure that as high a standard of hygiene as possible is observed.

Three contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1957 and one contravention of the Prevention of Cruelty Regulations were reported, and these were remedied informally.

Inspection and Supervision of Food Premises and Food Shops

The number and types of food businesses carried on in the Stone Rural District are as follows:-

Butchers	8
General Provisions	41
Bread, cakes and sugar confectionery	5
Catering	13
Greengrocery	4
Baking and bread etc.	1
Public houses	41
Factory canteens	4
Clubs	10

Inspections were carried out during the year to ensure that the requirements of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 were being complied with. Byelaws relating to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food are in operation in the district and are administered in conjunction with the above Regulations.

The following amount of food other than butchers' meat was found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered by the owners:-

Cooked meat and meat products208 lbs.

This consisted wholly of tinned imported ham.

One complaint was received of foreign bodies in food which was unfounded.

Manufactured Food. Six butchers' premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the preparation and manufacture of sausage and pressed meat intended for sale for human consumption.

Ice Cream. There are now 52 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream in the area, of these only 46 are at present retailing. All the premises sell prepacked ice cream.

Milk Sampling. Routine sampling of milk is undertaken by the Sampling Officers of the Staffordshire County Council.

The following samples were taken:-

Bacteriological examination	256
Biological test for tuberculosis	38

All the samples tested for tuberculosis proved negative and of the 256 submitted for bacteriological examination 9 failed the methylene blue test.

1 notice was received during the year with regard to *Brucella Abortus* and a Regulation 20 notice was served prohibiting the sale of milk prior to heat treatment.

Food Poisoning. No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Following recurring outbreaks of diarrhoea at one of the Junior Schools in the area samples were taken from affected children and also canteen staff. All samples taken proved negative.

Diseases of Animals. During the year 37 notifications of suspected Anthrax were received but all were subsequently withdrawn.

GENERAL

Factories Act, 1937 and 1948

Number on Register at end of year	40
Number of inspections for all purposes	10

All the factories are mechanically powered. It was not found necessary to serve any notices during the year.

Outworks

No notifications were received of outworkers employed in the district.

Shops Act, 1912-1950

Due to pressure of other work only a limited amount of work was possible in this direction.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

During the year work was commenced on detailed inspection of registered premises, but due to staff difficulties, progress was not as good as was anticipated. Minor contraventions were found in nine premises. There are 78 premises on the register including 21 offices, 35 retail shops, 1 wholesale warehouse and 21 catering establishments.

A general inspection of 15 premises was carried out and a total of 27 visits were made. Contravention in relation to temperature, ventilation, eating facilities and first aid equipment were found and put right by informal action.

Petroleum Acts

Sixty-one licences were issued during the year for the storage of 85,835 gallons of petroleum spirit. In addition three licences were issued for the storage of 5,550 gallons of petroleum mixtures.

Cinematograph Acts, 1909-1952

Theatres Act, 1843

4 Licences were issued during 1966. Visits and inspections were made in conjunction with the Staffordshire County Fire Service to ensure that the premises were satisfactory from the point of view of lighting, seating, sanitary accommodation and means of escape in case of fire.

Rodent Control

The Council continue to employ a full time Rodent Operative whose work in the district is divided into the following categories:-

Council Sites. These include the Council's refuse tips at Moddershall, Cranberry, Eccleshall and Swynnerton Royal Ordnance Factory, and Sewage Disposal Works at Eccleshall, Oulton, Rough Close, Offley Hay, Wetwood and Norton Bridge, all of which have been visited regularly and infestations kept to a minimum.

Council Houses. Some Council house sites have been visited mainly for small infestations of rats in hedge banks and were dealt with accordingly.

Business Premises. These include the Standon, Yarnfield and Stallington Hospitals, Nelson Hall Annexe, Wedgwood Memorial College, Shallowford House, Royal Ordnance Factory Proof Trials Unit, Meaford Power Station, Meaford Sports and Social Club, The Waterworks, Stone and other small infestations on business properties.

Private Properties. During the year a number of private properties have been visited both for the clearance of rats and mice and were dealt with successfully.

Farms. A contract scheme is in operation for farms and this enables farmers to avail themselves of a twelve monthly service for the clearance of rats and mice. About 33 farms were dealt with in this way during the year.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

Three premises were registered during the year for the boarding of dogs. Inspections were carried out to ensure that the premises were kept in a satisfactory condition.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

No licences were issued under this Act.

Rag Flock and Other Materials Act, 1950

There are no premises registered under this Act.

